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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,708	11/18/2003	Kevin E. Greeb	502271	5402
53609	7590	09/27/2005		
REINHART BOERNER VAN DEUREN LTD. 483 NORTH MULFORD ROAD SUITE 7 ROCKFORD, IL 61107			EXAMINER WALKER, ZAKIYA NICOLE	
			ART UNIT 3676	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/715,708

Applicant(s)

GREEB ET AL.

Examiner

Zakiya N. Walker

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02232004, 02072005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the term "is disclosed" is stated in line 2. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 3,958,592, US 3,770,247, or US 3,648,718.

Each reference discloses an apparatus that includes, with respect to claim 1, a pressurized stem sealing arrangement for sealing an elongated stem having

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a first end in communication with a process fluid and an opposing second end arranged to be acted upon by an actuating force, the sealing arrangement comprising: a piston surrounding a portion of the stem between the first and second ends, the piston including a face acted upon by a process fluid and a sleeve portion extending axially along the stem; a seal packing retained in the sleeve portion, the seal packing including a first and second seal elements axially spaced apart by a spacer element, the seals being subjected to pressure generated by the piston. With respect to claim 15, each reference discloses an apparatus that includes a regulating valve comprising: a valve body defining a flow passage; a valve member including a plug member situated in the flow passage and a stem extending from the plug member; a bonnet on the valve body, the stem extending through the bonnet; a seal arrangement retained in the bonnet, the seal arrangement including a piston surrounding the stem and statically sealed to the valve body, and a seal packing contained in the piston dynamically sealing the stem. With respect to claim 25, each reference discloses a method that includes a method of sealing an elongated stem extending through a valve bonnet having a flow passage for carrying process fluids, the method comprising inserting a seal packing into a sleeve portion of a piston; retaining the seal packing in the sleeve portion with a retaining ring; surrounding the stem with the piston such that the seal packing is fitted around the stem; restraining the piston with respect to the valve bonnet such that the piston communicates with the flow passage and a sealant cavity containing seal lubricant; and lubricating the seal package with seal lubricant as a result of pressure exerted on the

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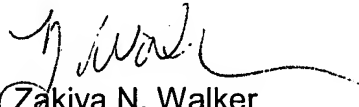
sealant cavity from the piston. With respect to the depending claims, the references teach the limitations as claimed. See each document in its entirety. For US'592, see particularly at least elements: valve body 10, passage 12, bonnet 15, stem 38, chamber 14, washer 94, sleeve 100, piston 45, seal packing 60, ports 68, 70, 78, and cover 58. For US'247, see particularly at least elements: valve body 14, stem 30, bonnet 32, snap ring 89, washer 91, cover 140, seal packing/piston 86, sleeve 127, and plug 154. For US'718, see particularly at least elements: valve body 10, passage 18, stem 14, bonnet 11, plug 48, ring 55, washer, sleeve/piston 43, ports 51, and seals 44, 53.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zakiya N. Walker whose telephone number is (571) 272-7039. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on (571) 272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Zakiya N. Walker
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3676

ZW
September 24, 2005